NASA Science and Technology Institute for Minority Institutions (NSTI- MI)

The NASA Science and Technology Institute for Minority Institutions (NSTI-MI), which was established in June 2006, provides the opportunity for students and researchers from minority-serving institutions to collaborate with government, the private sector, other majority institutions, and research and technical organizations through the establishment of Research and Development (R&D) collaborations and partnerships. NSTI-MI combines the talent and expertise of all Minority Institutions through research-based fellowships, internships, co-ops and grants.

The internship component of the Institute is open to both undergraduate and graduate students in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. NSTI-MI's first cohort completed their internships in August 2006; the interns' majors ranged from Electrical, Mechanical, Civil & Computer Engineering to Mathematics, Biology, Biomolecular & Material Science.

NSTI-MI fellowships, internships, co-ops, and think tanks increase the participation of faculty and students in NASA-related research; stimulate cross-disciplinary research; improve the transfer of information, ideas, and technology; foster R&D management strategies and expertise; and establish educational frameworks and networks that will continue to expand NASA's and the Nation's science and technology talent base.

Institute Initiatives:

- ♦ Links Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), industry, non-profits, and other entities through close association and alignment of research interests and expertise to create symbiotic partnerships
- Leverages R&D efforts to build capacity at MSIs and support NASA's Vision for Space Exploration through collaborative cutting-edge research and technology development by NSTI fellows, students, and partners
- Provides professional development that prepares faculty, students, and others to be highly-skilled science and technology leaders, managers, and entrepreneurs
- ♦ Leverages its presence in the NASA Research Park to impact educational efforts, including teacher training and K-12 outreach
- Increases the opportunity for NASA to work with MSI researchers, to understand MSI capabilities, identify research opportunities, and establish sustainable researchbased partnerships and collaborations
- Increases the abilities of MSI researchers to secure funding to continue their NASArelated research via strengthened proposals and networking with federal and private stakeholders
- Increases sustained university research support for NASA's missions and programs

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